

CzechRepublic

  
Vysočina Region



# Glassmaking in the Vysočina Region

Czech glass continues to enjoy an excellent reputation around the world. Glassmakers from the Vysočina Region have fully participated in establishing its good name. Their glassworks and skilled hands create original products and represent Czech glass at prestigious exhibitions.

Glassmaking in the Vysočina Region has a tradition going back at least four centuries. This is not surprising, since the region provided optimal conditions for the industry's development: deep woods supplied the glassworks with sufficient fuel, and there was also a place where quartz for glass production was found.

Glassworks were first recorded here in the sixteenth century. Since their establishment, many of these works have gradually disappeared, although the glass industry has survived in the region into the 21st century.

Let's discover the secrets of glass craft, examine its past and present, and explore the beauty of Czech glass made in the Vysočina Region. We warmly invite you to attend one or more glass-making events, or visit some of the places associated with the glass industry.



Bomma collection



Crystal Glamour

# Glassmaking in the Vysočina Region

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# Contemporary glassmaking in the Vysočina Region



The Vysočina Region is currently the second most important glassmaking area in the Czech Republic. There are several large glassworks and a number of small glass refineries in operation which are successfully competing against their rivals both home and abroad. Thanks also to educational institutions and a knowledge-base that upholds the tradition, there are also a number of independent glass artists and craftsmen in the Vysočina Region who create melted sculptures, cut and painted glass, stained glass and other glass products.

CAESAR CRYSTAL BOHEMIAE

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## Significant glassworks

The most important centre of glass-making today is the Světlá region, where Crystalite Bohemia in Světlá nad Sázavou is the dominant force in terms of production volumes. Its production of beverage and decorative glass for hotels, restaurants, shops and households is fully automated. The Bomma glassworks in Světlá focuses on producing designer lighting. CAESAR CRYSTAL BOHEMIAE in Josefodol, on the other hand, is one of the area's traditional producers of colorful cased crystal. The Crystal Glamour glassworks in nearby Okrouhlice produces cut Bohemia lead crystal.

Glassworks are also to be found in the Jihlava region – Merry Crystals in Antonínův Důl (clear and lead crystal) and Gold Crystal in Hruškové Dvory (richly decorated crystal) – and in other parts of Vysočina, e.g. the Janštejn glassworks, producing the exclusive design lighting of the Brokis brand and AGC Fenestra in Moravské Budějovice, which manufactures sheet glass.

Many smaller manufacturers in the Vysočina Region still focus on acclaimed designer glass, where the boundary between perfectly mastered craftsmanship and fine art starts to disappear. Good examples are provided by the AGS Jaroslav Svoboda glassworks in Karlov near Žďár nad Sázavou and the Valner Art Glass studio in Přibyslav.

Other glass attractions of our region include the small glassworks of František Novák in Dobronín. It specializes in producing perfect replicas of drinking glasses and goblets from the 2nd to 18th centuries. A small glassworks in Škrdlovice near Žďár nad Sázavou focuses on glass tourism, recalling for visitors the now long-gone tradition of Škrdlovice glass, once world-famous.

Despite shifts in the market and strong competition, glass in the Vysočina Region continues to flourish thanks to the skill, commitment and persistence of local glassmakers.



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| <b>1.</b> Tasice historical glassworks             | <b>9.</b> Crystal Glamour, Okrouhlice           |
| <b>2.</b> Ledec nad Sázavou Castle                 | <b>10.</b> Merry Crystals, Antonínův Důl        |
| <b>3.</b> Světlá nad Sázavou Chateau               | <b>11.</b> Gold - Crystal, Hruškové Dvory       |
| <b>4.</b> CAESAR CRYSTAL BOHEMIAE, Josefodol       | <b>12.</b> Brokis, glassworks Janštejn          |
| <b>5.</b> Jaroslav Svoboda AGS, glassworks, Karlov | <b>13.</b> AGC Fenestra, Moravské Budějovice    |
| <b>6.</b> Horácké Museum in Nové Město na Moravě   | <b>14.</b> Atelier Valner Art Glass, Příbyslav  |
| <b>7.</b> Crystalite Bohemia, Světlá nad Sázavou   | <b>15.</b> František Novák glassworks, Dobronín |
| <b>8.</b> Bomma, Světlá nad Sázavou                | <b>16.</b> Škrdlovce glassworks                 |

## 1 Tasice historical glassworks – National Cultural Monument of the Czech Republic

Tasice 1, Bělá – Tasice, 584 01 Ledec nad Sázavou, +420 564 566 165, [www.sklarnatasice.cz](http://www.sklarnatasice.cz)

**Opening hours:** year-round; April–September, Tue–Sun, 10:00–17:00; October–March, Tue–Sun, 10:00–15:00



A unique glass museum from the end of the 18th century with one of the oldest preserved glassworks in Central Europe. There are regular demonstrations of live 'glass-making', glass exhibitions, and workshops. During a guided tour you will learn about the history of the works as well as the technology of glass production and cutting. The museum includes a Bohemia glass shop.

## 2 Ledec nad Sázavou Castle

Hradní 701, 584 01 Ledec nad Sázavou, +420 731 612 457, [www.hrad-ledec.cz](http://www.hrad-ledec.cz)

**Opening hours:** April–October, Sat–Sun, 09:00–16:00; May–September, Tue–Sun, 09:00–17:00



The newly established permanent exhibition – Glassmaking in the Vysočina Region – will guide visitors through the historical and artistic development of glassmaking in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands, i.e. in the Vysočina Region, from the 16th century to the present. Visitors will be familiarized with the art of the glass-making families operating in the Vysočina Region, the natural origin of glass materials and the activities of glassworks. The products of famous glassworks will also be on display.

## 3 Světlá nad Sázavou Chateau

Zámecká 1, 582 91 Světlá nad Sázavou, +420 569 333 558, [www.zameksvetla.cz](http://www.zameksvetla.cz)



**Opening hours:** June and September, Sat–Sun, 10:00–17:00; July and August, Tue–Sun, 10:00–17:00; out of season, weekdays – reservation necessary

An exhibition of historical European glass on loan from the depository of the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague. The collection contains more than a thousand objects, mainly produced by Czech glassmakers and European glassworks from the Baroque period to the end of the 19th century.

## 4 CAESAR CRYSTAL BOHEMIAE

Josefodol 2, 582 91 Světlá nad Sázavou,  
+420 569 469 315, [www.caesar-crystal.cz](http://www.caesar-crystal.cz)



Production of hand-blown and cut 24% lead crystal – clear and flashed, cut, gilded and painted. Tours of the glassworks take place every weekday. You can visit the glassworks itself, the drawing studio, the grinding area, and the company shop. Take home a glittering reminder of your experience at the glassworks.

## 5 Jaroslav Svoboda AGS, glassworks

Karlov 31, 591 01 Karlov,  
+420 566 659 152, [www.ags-svoboda.cz](http://www.ags-svoboda.cz)



Under the leadership of prof. Jaroslav Svoboda, designer glass pieces have been produced in Karlov since 1990. These objects have won many awards in the Czech Republic and abroad. The production of handmade free blown glass follows in the tradition of the Škrdlovce glassworks, where prof. Svoboda worked as head for many years. Those who are interested can visit the glassworks and watch the glassmakers at work every working day until 1 pm. The tour also includes a glass exhibition with examples of glass production. Workshops are regularly held in the glassworks, with the possibility of painting glass and meeting the glassmaking masters. The glassworks can be visited on weekdays from 8:00–15:00 and on Saturdays from 9:00–14:00. The tour takes in the glassworks itself, an exhibition of original glass sculptures and utility glass, as well as the company shop.

## 6 Horácké Museum, Nové Město na Moravě

Vratislavovo nám. 114, 592 31 Nové Město na Moravě,  
+ 420 566 598 760  
[horacke.muzeum@nmnm.cz](mailto:horacke.muzeum@nmnm.cz)  
[www.nmnm.cz](http://www.nmnm.cz)

The permanent exhibition displays an extensive collection of glass from well-known glassworks in the Vysočina Region (Milovy, Křižánky, Fryšava and Herálec). In addition to exhibits dedicated to glassmaking, you can also see exhibitions on folk culture, the production and development of skis, ironware, and a school classroom from the 1930s.



- 12.4. - 10.5.2020** **Vysočina Sklářská – Citypark Jihlava**  
a comprehensive exhibition of the glassworks, artists and glass schools in the Vysočina Region
- 10.5.2020** a fashion show, glass jewellery exhibition and extensive accompanying programme „Beauty of Glass Jewellery“ dedicated to Mother’s Day
- 21.5. - 30.8.2020** **Contemporary Glass Art (I-CULT\*) – OGV Jihlava**  
exhibition of studio glass, contemporary design, and the works of glass artists from the Vysočina Region, South Bohemia and Lower Austria
- 30. - 31.5.2020** **Magical Gardens at Žďár nad Sázavou Castle**  
traditional weekend of open gardens in the castle, this time enriched with a glass exhibition and glass installations in the gardens
- 2.6.2020** **Opening of the permanent exhibition Glassmaking in the Vysočina Region (I-CULT\*) – Ledec nad Sázavou Castle**  
interactive exhibition mapping the development of glassmaking in the Vysočina Region
- 5. - 6.6.2020** **Glass Cutting Symposium + Open Day in Bomma glassworks - Světlá nad Sázavou**  
a show of masterwork of Czech and foreign cutters, lectures and workshops. The Open Day will give visitors a unique opportunity to look around the world-class glass-cutters.
- 6.6.2020** **Castle Glass Day – presentation of glassworks, art workshops, fair and food&drink festival**  
announcement of the winners of the Glass Cutting Symposium, opening of the castle tourist season
- 12.6. - 30.8.2020** **Contemporary Glass Art in the Žďár Region – exhibition at the Horácká Gallery, Nové Město na Moravě**
- 27. - 28.6.2020** **Glass Fair at Ledec nad Sázavou Castle**  
traditional, Old Bohemian fair dedicated to the theme of glassmakers – demonstrations of glass craft and a rich accompanying programme linked to the permanent exhibition Glassmaking in the Vysočina Region
- 4.7.,18.7.,1.8.,15.8.2020** **Hand-blowing glass-making show, Tasice glassworks**
- 22.8.2020** **Horní Bradlo – Open Day showing the production of traditional hand-blown Christmas decorations**
- 25. - 26.9.2020** **Biennial of the Světlá nad Sázavou Academy, Open Day at Crystalite Crystalite Bohemia glassworks, St. Wenceslas Fair in Světlá nad Sázavou**

\* The exhibition takes place within the project ATCZ59 International Cultural Platform I-CULT, financed under the cross-border cooperation programme INTERREG V-A Austria – Czech Republic.



**Vysocina**  
Tourism

**Vysočina Tourism**

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